

## OFFICE OF THE YUMA COUNTY ATTORNEY

250 W. Second Street, Suite G. Yuma, Arizona 85364 Telephone: (928) 817-4300

Jon R. Smith County Attorney

Roger A. Nelson Chief Criminal Deputy

> William J. Kerekes. Chief Civil Deputy

Ronald R. Perkins Director Victim Services

August 14, 2018

The Honorable Doug Ducey Arizona State Governor Executive Tower 1700 West Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007

> RE: A.R.S. § 8-817(B)(8) Reports

Dear Governor Ducey,

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 8-817(B)(8)(b), we are submitting the following information addressing the number of criminal conduct allegation cases submitted to this office for review during fiscal year 2017-2018 and information related to those submission. For purpose of this report, criminal conduct allegations is defined by Arizona statute as,

[A]n allegation of conduct by a parent, guardian or custodian of a child that, if true, would constitute any of the following:

- (a) A violation of § 13-3623 involving child abuse.
- (b) A felony offense that constitutes domestic violence as defined in § 13-3601.
- (c) A violation of § 13-1404 or 13-1406 involving a minor.
- (d) A violation of § 13-1405, 13-1410 or 13-1417.
- (e) Any other act of abuse that is classified as a felony.
- (f) Any offense that constitutes domestic violence as defined by § 13-3601 and involves a minor who is a victim of or was in imminent danger during the domestic violence.1

<sup>1</sup> A.R.S. § 8-201(8)

RE: A.R.S. § 8-817(B)(8) Reports August 14, 2018 Page Two

During fiscal year 2017-2018, this office received 119 criminal conduct allegation (CCA) cases from law enforcement agencies located in Yuma County. Of those 119 cases submitted for review, criminal complaints have been filed in 45. Another 20 cases remain under review following a request for further information by this office to the submitting agency. Fifty-four cases were declined.

Of the 45 cases charged in fiscal year 2017-2018, 10 were concluded by conviction and 35 remain open, pending resolution.

Of the 54 cases declined, 48 were due to insufficient evidence and another 4 were declined for felony prosecution but were referred for review as misdemeanors. Also, 1 case was declined due to the death of the suspect and another because the alleged conduct was determined to have occurred in another jurisdiction.

Arizona Revised Statute § 8-817(B)(8)(a) requires the County Attorney to also prepare a report following the end of the prior fiscal year that contains the following the number of CCAs investigated in Yuma County and the number of such CCA investigation reports that were jointly investigated with DCS pursuant to our established protocols. Arizona Revised Statute § 8-817(B)(8)(c) also requires that this report indicate the reasons why a joint investigation between a law enforcement agency and DCS did not occur, if such, in fact, did not.

Based on the information provided to this office from all local law enforcement agencies in Yuma County<sup>2</sup>, we report the following:

- Number of CCAs Investigated 223.
- Number of CCAs Jointly Investigated with DCS 183.
- Number of CCAs not Jointly Investigated and the Reasons Why 40 (13 DCS was not available; 2- law enforcement was not available; 11 events occurred outside the agency's jurisdiction; 2- DCS disagreed; 12 reasons undetermined).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Yuma County Sheriff's Office, City of Yuma Police Department, City of San Luis Police Department, City of Somerton Police Department and Town of Wellton Police Department.

RE: A.R.S. § 8-817(B)(8) Reports August 14, 2018 Page Three

This concludes our report for the fiscal year 2017-2018. Should information come about that was not known at the time of this submission, we will promptly supplement the same. Thank you for your continued attention to these matters.

Very truly yours,

Jon R. Smith

Yuma County Attorney

JRS:sj